

FAULT TOLERANT SERVER FOR COLLABORATIVE COMPUTING

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A distributed collaborative computer system is
provided that comprises a plurality of server computers
interconnected via a high-speed link. Client computers
can connect to any available server computer and start
or join a conference hosted on either the server
10 computer to which the client computer is connected or
any other server in the system. As a result, the
system and method of the present invention is easily
scalable to support an arbitrary number of participants
to a conference by merely adding the appropriate number
15 of server computers to the system. In addition, by
replicating the conference information on more than one
server computer, the single point of failure limitation
is eliminated. In fact, if a server hosting or
participating in a conference malfunctions, the failure
20 is detected by other server computers and the client
computer is able to reconnect to the conference through
a new server computer.